

Message Text

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ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 DPW-01 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 SAM-01 OIC-02

AGR-05 AID-05 /087 W

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R 280950Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO AMEMBASSZ SAIGON

INFO SERSTATE WASHDC 6885

AMEMBASSY BERN

USMISSION GENEVA

USUN NEW YORK 213

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 0166

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM PFOR WMO ICRC VN VS MA

SUBJECT: "PRG" ISSUES AT SECOND SESSION OF CONFERENCE ON LAW
OF WAR AND 7TH WMO CONGRESS

REFS: A. SAIGON 628; B. STATE 8673; C. STATE 10509

1. I HAVE DELAYED REPLYING REF A BECAUSE I HAVE BEEN SEARCH-
ING TO FIND EFFECTIVE MEANS OF OBLIGING MY RESPECTED AND
ADMIREN FRIEND AMBASSADOR MARTIN, AS WELL AS STRIKING A BLOW
ON BEHALF OF US POLICY ON VIET-NAM.

2. BUT I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE FIND ANY APPROACH TO GOMR WHICH
OFFERS ANY PROMISE OF SUCCESS OTHER THAN LEVERAGE INVOLVED
IN PL-480 ASSISTANCE WHICH I DISCUSSED AT LENGTH DURING
DECEMBER CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON.

3. DURING 1974 GOMR MOVED DECIDEDLY BEHIND "PRG" THROUGH
DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION, VISIT BY MME BINH US "STWR6 AT
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MALAGASY NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION, AND REPEATED SUPPORT IN

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. GIVEN THIS HISTORY AND VIEW OF FOREIGN MINISTER RATSIRAKA (EVIDENTLY DERIVED FROM HIS OBSERVATIONS ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA) THAT BEST WAY OF GETTING MORE AID OUT OF US IS BY ATTACKING AND OPPOSING IT, NO DIPLOMATIC ARGUMENTS I COULD USE WOULD CHANGE GOMR POSITION. ONLY POSSIBILITY WOULD BE BY LINKING POSITIVE US RESPONSE TO GOMR REQUEST FOR PL-480 RICE TO GOMR ATTITUDE ON SOUTH VIETNAMESE AND KHMER ISSUES.

4. NEW CABINET WHICH WILL EMERGE FOLLOWING DISSOLUTION OF PREVIOUS ONE ON JAN 25 BY HEAD OF GOVT GENERAL RAMANANTSOA COULD CONCEIVABLY OFFER OPENING FOR APPROACH TO GOMR. HOWEVER, BEST ESTIMATE IS THAT RAMANANTSOA WILL RETAIN RATSIRAKA, PRIME MOVER BEHIND GOMR'S SHIFT INTO RADICAL NON-ALIGNED CAMP, AS FOREIGN MINISTER.

5. MEANWHILE, FOR RECORD EMBASSY IS SENDING NOTE TO FONOFF APPEALING FOR GOMR SUPPORT ON REF B AND C ISSUES AND SUPPORTING APPEAL WITH COPY OF US NOTE OF JAN 11 ON VIETNAM (STATE 15673).
MENDENHALL

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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